WEST SHORE-LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN, LA



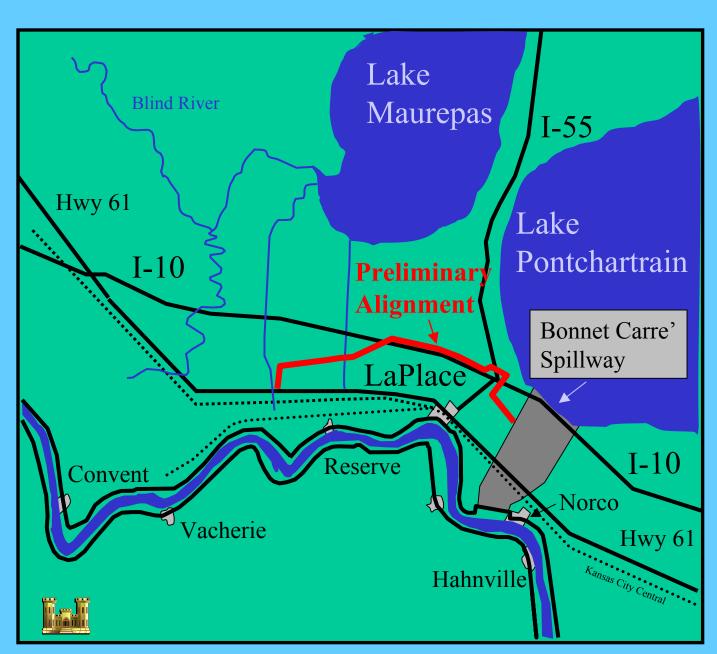
Study Status:

The feasibility report is scheduled for completion in Sep 2004.

Study Cost:

Feas (Fed/NonFed) \$2,700,000 Total \$3,200,000

Study FY05 FundsRequired: \$400,000





U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District, CEMVN-PM-E P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

West Shore-Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana

STUDY AUTHORITY: The study was authorized by resolutions requesting a review of the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity, Louisiana, report adopted by the committee on Public Works of the U.S. House of Representatives, dated 29 July 1971; and by the Committee on Public Works of the U.S. Senate, dated 20 September 1974.

STUDY SPONSOR: The Pontchartrain Levee District entered into an agreement to provide the non-Federal share of the feasibility cost in March 1998.

STUDY LOCATION: The study area, which includes portions of St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, and St. James Parishes, is located west of the Bonnet Carre' Spillway between the Mississippi River and Lakes Pontchartrain and Maurepas. Communities within the study area include Laplace, Reserve, Lutcher, Gramercy, and Garyville.

STUDY PURPOSE: To determine the economic feasibility of providing increased levels of hurricane protection to residents living west of the Bonnet Carre Spillway and north of the Mississippi River.

STUDY FEATURES: There have been a number of recent hurricanes which have impacted the study area. Although Hurricane Juan (1985) was only a minimal category 1 hurricane, extensive flooding occurred in several subdivisions within the study area. Hurricane Andrew (1992) destroyed or severely damaged an estimated 130 structures and caused over 7.3 million dollars in damages in the Laplace area. The potential for catastrophic loss of life and property damage continues to increase as land within the study area is converted from agricultural use to residential and industrial use. The study area has a relatively low level of hurricane protection and is vulnerable to hurricane surge from Lakes Pontchartrain and Maurepas. There are an estimated 5,000 residential structures vulnerable to flooding from the 100-year storm. Two final alignments are being evaluated that would provide protection form the west guide levee of the Bonnet Carre Spillway to the vicinity of the Hope Canal and U.S. Hwy. 61.

STUDY COST:

Total Estimated Study Cost	\$ 3,200,000
Reconnaissance Phase (Federal)	\$ 500,000
Feasibility Phase (Federal)	\$ 1,350,000
Feasibility Phase (Non-Federal)	\$ 1,350,000

STATUS/ISSUES: PED is unbudgeted in FY 2005. FY 2005 funds of \$400,000 are required to initiate preconstruction engineering and design (PED).

ISSUES: St. John the Baptist Parish has expressed concern with the Corps proposed alignment and requested that we give consideration to an alternative alignment. We agreed to evaluate both the Corps proposed alignment and the St. John the Baptist Parish alignment in more detail before identifying a recommended plan. We have requested a decision from the Pontchartrain Levee District on how to proceed (Corps proposed alignment, the locally preferred alignment which is more expensive, or terminate the study).

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Date: March , 2004